

2021 Mock Newbery Discussion #2

October 13, 2020

It's time to start taking a closer look at the children's books of 2020. Participating in the Mock Newbery is an opportunity to read the newest children's books and to discuss them with other passionate readers. A letter certifying participation is available for those applying the Mock Newbery program towards professional development.

Program registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y4pshkl1>

Mock Newbery Discussion #2

Thursday, December 3, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, register for login link - <https://tinyurl.com/y4pshkl1>

2021 Mock Newbery Reading List #2

1. *Almost American Girl* by Robin Ha (**Added 10/8**)
2. *The Blackbird Girls* by Anne Blankman
3. *Birdie and Me* by J.M.M. Nuñez (**Added 10/8**)
4. *Black Brother, Black Brother* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
5. *Chirp* by Kate Messner (**Added 10/8**)
6. *Echo Mountain* by Lauren Wolk
7. *Efrén Divided* by Ernesto Cisneros (**Added 10/8**)
8. *Fighting Words* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (**Added 10/8**)
9. *From the Desk of Zoe Washington* by Janae Marks
10. *A Game of Fox and Squirrels* by Jenn Reese
11. *Here in the Real World* by Sara Pennypacker (**Added 10/8**)
12. *A Home for Goddesses and Dogs* by Leslie Connor (**Added 10/8**)
13. *One Time* by Sharon Creech (**Added 10/8**)
14. *The Only Black Girls in Town* by Brandy Colbert
15. *On the Horizon* by Lois Lowry (**Added 10/8**)
16. *Prairie Lotus* by Linda Sue Park
17. *Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte
18. *Stand Up, Yumi Chung!* by Jessica Kim (to be discussed 12/3)
19. *When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller (to be discussed 12/3)
20. *When Stars are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson (**Added 10/8**)
21. *A Wish in the Dark* by Christinia Soontornvat (to be discussed 12/3)

Dropped on 10/8 (these books will not be eligible for voting in January)

1. *The List of Things That Will Not Change* by Rebecca Stead
2. *The One and Only Bob* by Katherine Applegate
3. *Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh
4. *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renée Watson

Please send suggested titles for Reading List #3 by December 7th to: danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov

Reading List #3 will be available December 8th at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/youth/newbery/index.php>

Voting for a Rhode Island winner and honor books will take place on January 14, 2021 using the balloting procedures of the real committee.

Continuing sessions:

Mock Newbery Discussion #3 - Voting

Thursday, January 14, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, register for login link - <https://tinyurl.com/y3gt3asf>

The Newbery Medal is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published in the United States during the preceding year. The Award is restricted to authors who are citizens or residents of the United States.

Criteria:

1. In identifying "Distinguished Writing" in a book for children,

a. Committee members need to consider the following:

- Interpretation of the theme or concept
- Presentation of information including accuracy, clarity, and organization
- Development of a plot
- Delineation of characters
- Delineation of setting
- Appropriateness of style

Note: Because the literary qualities to be considered will vary depending on content, the committee need not expect to find excellence in each of the named elements. The book should, however, have distinguished qualities in all of the elements pertinent to it.

b. Committee members must consider excellence of presentation for a child audience.

2. Each book is to be considered as a contribution to American literature. The committee is to make its decision primarily on the text. Other components of a book, such as illustrations, overall design of the book, etc., may be considered when they make the book less effective.

3. The book must be a self-contained entity, not dependent on other media (i.e., sound or film equipment) for its enjoyment.

Note: The committee should keep in mind that the award is for literary quality and quality presentation for children. The award is not for didactic content or popularity.

Adopted by the ALSC Board, January 1978. Revised, Midwinter 1987. Revised, Annual 2008.